

Appln No. 10/757,637

Amdt date June 8, 2005

Reply to Office action of December 8, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for rating a cruise based on pricing data for ~~the cruise~~ one or more cruises for a predetermined period of time comprising:

electronically obtaining pricing data for one or more cruises;

identifying one or more price affecting factors;

calculating, using a processor, ~~a~~ one or more correlation ~~coefficient~~ coefficients for each of the one or more price affecting factors; and

calculating a cruise rating based on the pricing data, the one or more price affecting factors, and the one or more correlation coefficients.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ one or more price affecting ~~factor is~~ factors are comprised of at least one of price, season, cruise itinerary, cruise length, at least one port of call, geographic region, port of embarkation, port of disembarkation, date of sail, proximity to a holiday, proximity to a school break, and ship's age.

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3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined period of time is at least one year.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

after calculating the ~~price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation~~ cruise rating, comparing the ~~price index~~ cruise rating for each of the one or more ~~eruse ships~~ cruises with the pricing data over a ~~predetermined period~~ of time;

if the comparison ~~does not exceed~~ exceeds a predetermined value, identifying one or more additional correlation between the pricing data and at least one price affecting factor; and

calculating a new ~~price index~~ cruise rating based on the pricing data and the identified one or more additional correlation.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

after calculating the ~~price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation~~ cruise rating, comparing the ~~price index~~ cruise rating for each of the one or more ~~eruse ships~~ cruises with the pricing data over a ~~predetermined period~~ of time;

if the comparison ~~does not exceed~~ exceeds a predetermined value, obtaining new pricing data for the cruise for a ~~predetermined period~~ of time;

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identifying one or more correlation between the new pricing data and at least one price affecting factor; and

calculating a new ~~price-index~~-cruise rating based on the new pricing data and the identified correlation.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining an average ~~price-index~~-cruise rating for one or more cruise ships of a particular cruise line; and

calculating a ~~price-index~~-cruise line rating of the particular cruise line based on the average ~~price-index~~ cruise rating.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A method for rating a cruise ship based on prices for one or more cruise ships over a ~~predetermined~~-period of time comprising:

electronically obtaining pricing data for one or more cruise ships;

calculating, using a processor, a daily price for each of the one or more cruise ships using at least one price affecting factor;

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comparing the daily price for each of the one or more cruise ships ~~with a~~ with the pricing data for that ship over a ~~predetermined~~ period of time to determine a consistency indicator; and

if ~~comparison~~ the consistency indicator meets ~~exceeds~~ a ~~predetermined value~~ requirement, calculating a price index of each cruise ship based on the daily price for each one of the one or more ~~cruises~~ cruise ships.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

determining an average price of all daily prices for each of the one or more cruise ships; and

assigning a cruise rating for each one of the one or more cruise ships based on the average price.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

calculating a range of daily prices of the one or more cruise ships; and

determining a cruise rating for the one or more cruise ships based on comparison of the daily price of the one or more cruise ships with the range of daily prices of the one or more cruise ships.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the ~~predetermined~~ period of time is at least one year.

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14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the ~~predetermined-value~~ requirement is a set value of a correlation coefficient.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the ~~predetermined-value~~ requirement is a set percentage.

16. (Currently amended) A method for evaluating a cruise price being charged by a vendor based on pricing data for a one or more cruises for a ~~predetermined~~-period of time comprising:

electronically obtaining pricing data for one or more cruises;

creating, using a processor, a regression formula based on the pricing data, where the regression formula is a function of at least one price affecting factor;

calculating an expected price of a specific cruise based on the value of at least one price affecting factor of the specific cruise and the regression formula; and

comparing the cruise price being charged with the expected price.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of displaying the comparison between the cruise price and the expected price in a medium.

18. (Original) The method of claim of 17, wherein the medium is at least one of an electronic medium, a print medium, a sound medium, and a paper medium.

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19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one price affecting factor is comprised of at least one of price, season, cruise itinerary, cruise length, at least one port of call, geographic region, port of embarkation, port of disembarkation, date of sail, proximity to a holiday, proximity to a school break, and ship's age.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the ~~predetermined~~ period of time is at least one year.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of calculating an expected price of the cruise comprises:

calculating a price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation;

comparing the price index with the pricing data for a second ~~predetermined~~ period of time;

if comparison ~~does not exceed~~ exceeds a predetermined value, identifying one or more additional correlation between the pricing data and the at least one price affecting factor,

calculating a new price index based on the pricing data and the identified one or more correlation, and

calculating the expected price of the cruise based on the new price index.

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23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the step of calculating an expected price of the cruise comprises:

calculating a price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation,

comparing the price index with the pricing data for a second ~~predetermined~~ period of time,

if comparison ~~does not exceed~~ exceeds a predetermined value, obtaining new pricing data for the cruise for a ~~predetermined~~ period of time,

identifying one or more correlation between the new pricing data and at least one price affecting factor,

calculating a new price index based on the new pricing data and the identified correlation, and

calculating the expected price of the cruise based on the new price index.